

APPROVED AS AMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
JULY 5, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: First Selectwoman Evonne Klein; Dr. Joseph Miceli,
Linda Santarella, Robert Harrel.

STAFF: John Crary, Administrative Officer

OTHER: Louise Berry, Bruce Hill, Anthony Homicki,
Jeremy Ginsberg, and Flora Smith

First Selectwoman Klein called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

FIRST SELECTWOMAN'S REPORT

First Selectwoman Klein opened the meeting by commenting favorably on the previous day's Push/Pull parade that was sponsored by the YWCA. She also recommended to Parks and Recreation that the Town be a co-sponsor next year and that the Town waive the \$200 fee for using Tilly Pond Park.

There was a meeting with CL&P representatives and the residents of Brookside Drive about the Glenbrook cable project. The Brookside Drive area is scheduled to just have trenching with wires. There are EMF and other concerns. The Town has stated that they do not want the particular type of technology being used and have suggested alternatives. The Citing Council appears to favor the southern route. Volt locations will be critical, so the Town will continue to work with CL&P on those locations.

There has been some conversation with the Department of Transportation regarding the replacing the windows in the pedestrian overpass at one location and replacement of some steps at Hollow Tree Ridge Road. A letter confirming the issues discussed will be sent to the DOT this week.

First Selectwoman Klein took the opportunity to remind the Board and the other attendees that that Community Band Concert will be on July 13th.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Crary mentioned the lease with Wilton Enterprises who is the concessionaire at the Darien and Norton Heights railroad stations. Presently, the lease is ending and Mr. Crary will be meeting with them in the coming week to discuss extending it with some

modifications. Once some of the details are clarified, Mr. Crary will report back to the Board on the terms of conditions.

The Health Insurance continues to be a major issue. The current health insurance agent is not as successful as the Town would like in terms of lowering the costs or providing additional services. Mr. Crary will be meeting with another broker who currently provides the Town with liability insurance to see if they could improve the services offered to the employees and retirees. Mr. Crary will report back to the Board with the details.

SENIOR CENTER TASK FORCE REPORT

Ms. Santarella summarized the meetings of the Task Force for the Board and elections of the temporary officers. The group has toured the Senior Center and they are scheduling appointments with various towns in the state to investigate their Senior Center programs and facilities. The next Task Force meeting will be on July 6th and the Task Force hopes to have a report for the Board by the September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORT OF THE TOKENEKE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Bruce Hill reported that the project has progressed to the Design and Development Stage, with particular attention to the entry and the Media Library. Turner Construction has been selected as the Construction Manager. The State Planning application has been submitted. The School Building Committee meets about every two weeks and they are taking their cue from the Board of Education. The Building Committee is looking to complete their phase of the project by January.

TOWN WEBSITE TASKFORCE

Ms. Berry informed the Board that currently, the Darien Library maintains the Website. There are currently no Full Time Web Masters. She reviewed the Website Strategic Plan that the Board had copies of in their packets.

Ms. Berry reviewed the recommendations of the Website Committee:

- the transition of the maintenance of the Town portion of the Website from the Library to
 Town Hall.
- the appointment of an on-going Town Website Committee
- that the Town Administrator be the gate keeper for the content of the Website.
- that more information be included on the Website to encourage people to utilize the site.
- to include Tourism and shopping in the Umbrella site

- and finally, to consider including an on-line forum.

Several questions were raised regarding the possible inclusion of the Assessor's files on the Website. Mr. Homicki replied that he expected to see a trend developing over the next 12 to 16 months, but based on the previous experience, the trend appears to be positive. During the last 7 years, the Assessor's Office has withheld sensitive information at the request of various property owners, but that is the exception rather than the rule.

Mr. Hill also mentioned that by utilizing the Website, large items, such as site plans can be accessed easily.

**** MR. HARREL MOVED TO ADOPT THE TOWN WEBSITE TASKFORCE'S STRATEGIC PLAN WITH THE HOPEFUL CAVEAT THAT THE CURRENT TASK FORCE WILL STAY INTACT AND ON TASK TO WORK WITH THE TOWN TO INSURE THAT THIS PROJECT WILL BE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED.**

**** DR. MICELI SECONDED**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

REPORT OF MR. CHRIS CAMUTI, PARKING RANGER FOR MODIFICATION TO THE TOWN'S PARKING PLAN.

Dr. Miceli and Ms. Santarella agreed with Mr. Camuti's report and were able to speak with many of the business owners in the proposed location. It was generally agreed that Mr. Camuti's research was extremely well done.

**** MS. SANTARELLA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE CHANGES OUTLINED IN MR. CAMUTI'S REPORT.**

**** MR. HARREL SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

TOWN OF DARIEN ORDINANCE 47-5 SNOW SHOVELING

Mr. Crary presented a second draft of the shoveling ordinance. The biggest problem with the ordinance is enforcement. In theory, a police officer would issue a citation if someone was in violation. Appeals could go before a civilian hearing citation officer, or a correction could be made. The RTM would be responsible for having a public hearing.

There was some discussion regarding the various aspects of this ordinance. Initially, the police would issue warnings. After that, following a snow event, citations would be issued.

Stamford is getting excellent compliance and the Town is investigating their procedure. Questions about the cost of having the Town do it were raised. No current costs were available. Ms. Smith, a resident of 42 Hamilton Lane commented that the Town of Greenwich was liable as was the property owners which was demonstrated in her fall in that town and that the Town of Darien can also be sued because of Sole Proxima Cause as the property owner of the sidewalks. Therefore, the ordinance continues to leave the Town in legal jeopardy. First Selectwoman Klein suggested that the Board forward any additional concerns to Mr. Crary and that they review this ordinance again in August.

TRANSFERS

Due to rising gas prices, the Police Department will need one more fuel delivery before the end of the month. In order to balance the budget, a transfer of funds is needed.

- ** MR. HARREL MOVED TO APPROVE FOR REFERRAL TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE THE TRANSFER OF \$1,900 FROM ACCOUNT # 10302243 82033 (RECORDS-CONTRACT SVCS) TO ACCOUNT # 10302313 83004 (FLEET-MOTOR FUEL AND LUBRICANTS).**
- ** SECONDED**
- ** THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Smith had several questions regarding First Selectwoman's conversation with the DOT about the repairs to the train stations, the new lease with Wilton Enterprises, and the selection of an insurance broker for health and medical insurance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2005

- ** MS. SANTARELLA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2005 AS SUBMITTED**
- ** DR. MICELI SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 25, 2005

- ** MS. SANTARELLA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2005 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** DR. MICELI SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 25, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

- ** MS. SANTARELLA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION) AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** DR. MICELI SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 2, 2005

- ** DR. MICELI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2005 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MS. SANTARELLA SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 7, 2005

- ** DR. MICELI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF MAY 7, 2005 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MS. SANTARELLA SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 9, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

- ** DR. MICELI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF MAY 7, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION) AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MS. SANTARELLA SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 26, 2005

The following corrections were noted:

- Page 1, 6th paragraph reads “ The Hart Swindell case has been dismissed.” This should be changed to “The Hart vs. Windel case....”
- Page 2, 6th paragraph reads “Ms. Santarella mentioned that the reason they didn’t continue with the medical insurance for the firefighters was they were waiting for some answers from the firefighters and the ambulance personnel.” This should be changed to “...waiting for some answers from the firefighters and the ambulance personnel as well as the Town Council.”

- ** DR. MICELI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2005 AS CORRECTED.**
- ** MS. SANTARELLA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

SPECIAL MEETING OF JUNE 13, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

**** MR. HARREL MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION) AS SUBMITTED.**

**** MS. SANTARELLA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2005

The following change was noted:

In the footer of all pages, the date reads "June 6, 2005". This should be changed to "June 20, 2005"

**** MR. HARREL MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2005 AS CORRECTED.**

**** MS. SANTARELLA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

SPECIAL MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

**** MS. SANTARELLA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION) AS SUBMITTED.**

**** DR. MICELI SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

SPECIAL MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

**** MS. SANTARELLA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2005 (EXECUTIVE SESSION) AS SUBMITTED.**

**** DR. MICELI SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

OTHER BUSINESS

First Selectwoman Klein stated that she approved of the Waiving of Requirements for Competitive Bidding Under Section 46 Town Charter Declaration of Emergency for the boat for the Youth Commission. The information was included in the June 27th packet.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

The next meetings will be July 18th, August 1st, August 15th.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS DEPARTMENT HEAD AND NON UNION
PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS**

- ** MS. SANTARELLA MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- ** DR. MICELI SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services